GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3594
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2001
CABLE TV
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether MTNL proposes to tie up with Boardcasters for entering the Cable Television segment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the advantage of convergence with Prasar Bharati in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. MTNL has a proposal to form an alliance with Prasar Bharti to enter cable TV segment.

(c) On getting licence to start a cable network, MTNL shall be in good position to use its optic fibre and high end copper cable distribution systems along with ATM switches. This would provide:

(i) A good cable network to the consumers meeting all their needs of entertainment, information and education.

(ii) Starting of multimedia services using the content provided by Prasar Bharti. The consumer could get the facility of streaming video.

(iii) These ATM switches shall provide video on demand service to consumers in Delhi and Mumbai in the first instance.

(iv) Both computer and TV sets will be able to screen programmes/signals including Internet, video on demand.